

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic device system comprising an electronic device unit being a parent device including a connector for connecting to an external device and a connector for connecting to another electronic device unit, the
5 parent device having a function of transmitting/receiving data to/from the external device, and a plurality of electronic device units being child devices each including two connectors for connecting to other electronic device units, the child devices being connected to the parent device in series for use, wherein

10 said parent device has means for successively generating identification codes for the electronic device units, and the electronic device units have means for automatically setting the successively generated identification codes as own identification codes respectively in the order of series connection beginning from said parent device.

15 2. The electronic device system according to claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of electronic device units has a function of setting the identification code generated by the electronic device unit being said parent device as the own identification code and then reporting that the unit has completed the setting to the electronic device unit connected next.

20 3. The electronic device system according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein

25 said parent device has means for determining that all of said child devices have completed setting of the identification codes when said parent device issues an identification code setting instruction to said child devices and then receives no answer of setting completion from said child devices within a predetermined period previously set.

4. An electronic device system comprising a plurality of electronic device units each including a connector connectable to an external device and

another electronic device unit, and a connector for connecting to another electronic device unit, the plurality of electronic device units being connected in series for use, wherein

each of the plurality of electronic device units includes:

5 recognition means for recognizing itself to be a parent device because none of the electronic device units is connected in front of the unit itself and the other electronic device unit is connected behind the unit itself, or recognizing itself to be a child device because the other electronic device unit is connected in front of the unit itself;

10 means for successively generating identification codes for the electronic device units, when the unit recognizes itself to be a parent device by the recognition means; and

means for automatically setting as the own identification code one of the identification codes successively generated from the electronic device unit 15 which has recognized itself to be said parent device, in the order of series connection beginning from the electronic device unit which has recognized itself to be said parent device, when the unit recognizes itself to be a child device by the recognizing means.

5. The electronic device system according to claim 4, wherein

20 each of the plurality of electronic device units includes means for automatically setting as an identification code of said parent device the first identification code which the unit itself has generated, when the unit recognizes itself to be a parent device by the recognition means.

6. The electronic device system according to claim 4 or claim 5, 25 wherein

each of the plurality of electronic device units includes means for recognizing itself to be the last electronic device unit because none of the other electronic device units is connected behind the unit itself and

transmitting the fact to the electronic device unit which has recognized itself to be said parent device.

7. The electronic device system according to claim 4 or claim 5, wherein

5 each of the plurality of electronic device units has means, when recognizing itself to be a parent device, for determining that all of the other electronic device units have completed setting of the identification codes when the unit issues an identification code setting instruction to the other electronic device units and then receives no answer of setting completion
10 from the other electronic device units within a predetermined period previously set.